

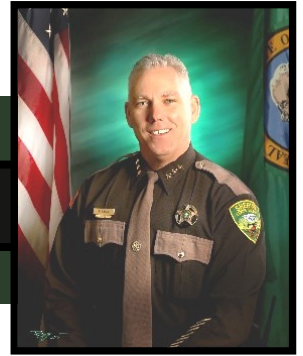
OFFICE OF THE LEWIS COUNTY

SHERIFF

Sheriff's Office Rapsheet



"PUBLIC SAFETY THROUGH PROFESSIONAL SERVICE"



MESSAGE FROM THE SHERIFF:

I hope this installment of our Rapsheet finds you all doing well as we prepare for the holiday season. There has been a lot of activity with our office, and the information contained in this edition is a snapshot of some of what we have been up to since our last publication. I want to continue to thank our community for the huge amount of support for our office we encounter daily. Law enforcement throughout the country is experiencing some tough times, but we are fortunate to live in a community where individuals continually show generous support for us.

We have had some significant changes in our command staff at the office the last few months. Stacy Brown, who held the position of Chief Special Services Deputy, accepted a position as the Chief of The Evergreen College Police Department in September. To fill this vacancy, I promoted Dusty Breen, who previously served as our Field Operations Commander. Sergeant Curt Spahn was then promoted to Acting Field Operations Commander.

Also in September, Kevin Hanson, who held the position of Chief Corrections Deputy, accepted a position with the Mason County Sheriff's Office as their Chief of Corrections. In October, our agency hired Chris Sweet to fill this vacant position. Chief Sweet comes to us after a 25-year career with the Washington State Patrol, where he recently retired as a Lieutenant. He began his law enforcement career with the Washington State Patrol in east Lewis County, and we are glad to have him serving our community. Also, in our corrections side of the house, Lieutenant Chris Tawes was promoted to Captain, filling a previous vacancy from the retirement of Jim Pea in July 2015.

It is an exciting time for us here at the Lewis County Sheriff's Office. Regardless of the changes, we continually strive to meet our motto of "Public Safety through Professional Service," and provide quality public safety services to Lewis County. We at the Lewis County Sheriff's Office wish every one of you a happy holiday season as we enter into the fall and winter months.

Your Sheriff,

Rob Snaza

November 2016

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Mission Statement:

Being a committed community partner, providing professional service to enhance the safety, security, and quality of life in Lewis County.

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Winter Driving Tips

We are coming upon that time of year again. Remember to remove all ice and snow from your vehicle before driving, especially from the hood, windows and roof.

- Drive slow (at or below the posted speed limit) and adjust your speed for the changing road conditions.
- Turn on your headlights, using low beams when travelling in snow.
- Increase your following distance. In winter weather, travel at least 8 to 10 seconds behind the car in front of you.
- Give snowplows plenty of room to work. Don't tailgate and try not to pass, take extreme caution in doing so.
- Remember, a snowplow operator's field of vision is restricted. You may see him, but they don't always see you.
- If you skid, don't brake or accelerate. Remove your foot from the gas, and gently steer your car in the direction of the skid (the direction the rear of your vehicle is sliding.) When your car starts heading in the desired direction, carefully straighten the wheel.
- Slow down before exiting the highway. Exit ramps often have icy patches, sharp curves and stalled or stopped vehicles.
- Beware of "black ice." It often appears to be water, but it's ice.

Sheriff's Office Events 2016

The Lewis County Sheriff's Office continues to be committed to being a community partner, striving to be actively involved with the community.

Take a look at some of the events we participated in 2016.

- o Sheriff for a Day
- o Thorbeckes Fitlife Health and Wellness Fair
- o Citizen Firearms Safety Class
- o "Read Across America"
- o Toledo High School's "Traffic Safety Week"
- o Bethel Church's Easter Egg Hunt
- o Winlock High School DUI Mock Crash
- o Packwood Flea Market
- o Pope's Kids Place
- o Boating and Water Safety presentations
- o Workplace Violence presentations for our schools and businesses
- o Winlock Egg Days
- o Child Identification Program
- o Spring Youth Fair
- o Special Olympics Torch Run
- o Vader May Day Parade
- o Relay for Life-Lewis County
- o Centralia Summerfest Parade
- o STP Bike Ride
- o Chehalis Fest
- o Chehalis Children's Day at Yard Birds
- o Packwood Summer Rod Run
- o National Night Out-Centralia
- o Mossyrock Blueberry Festival
- o Morton Loggers' Jubilee
- o Southwest Washington Fair
- o Kids Day-Law and Fire at the Chehalis Home Depot
- o Onalaska Apple Harvest Festival
- o Safety City
- o Onalaska Community Dinner
- o Grange Presentations



New 3D Crime Scene Scanner

Lewis County Prosecutor Jonathan Meyer purchased a FARO 3D crime scene scanner for local agency detectives to use at complex scenes, in order to better prepare court cases and provide visual evidence at a trial. As part of the purchase, detectives from the Centralia Police Department and the Lewis County Sheriff's Office received training and participated in practical exercises using the technology. This new technology allows a scene to be scanned in a matter of minutes, and a 3D image to be regenerated later.

This emerging technology will replace previous methods which required law enforcement assistance outside of Lewis County, which was very time consuming.

Sheriff Snaza created the **Sheriff's Enforcement Team (SET)** in 2015 to address high crime areas, or patterns of criminal activity. During 2016, SET has continued to be a proactive and aggressive measure to address crime within our community. From January to October of 2016, SET made 199 arrests, cleared 133 warrants, conducted 502 traffic stops, and completed 598 calls for service.



This team is also heavily involved with participating in community events and the SMS (Sheriffs' Mentoring Students) Program.



JNET Has Continued Success During 2016

The Joint Narcotics Enforcement Team (JNET) has continued to be highly successful in 2016. The team consists of members of the Centralia Police Department, Chehalis Police Department, and the Lewis County Sheriff's Office. Year to date for 2016, they have made 118 felony arrests and multiple misdemeanor arrests. They have also seized 141 lbs. of marijuana, 42 lbs. of methamphetamine, 13 lbs. of heroin, 5.25 lbs. of cocaine, 1,022 lbs. of marijuana plants, 4,200 lbs. of other drugs/prescription pills, and 109 firearms.

PATROL ACTIVITIES

K-9 Axel Cross-Trained For Drug Detection

In May of 2016, Lewis County Sheriff's Office K-9 Axel became certified as a narcotics detection dog after a rigorous training program. K-9 Axel was previously utilized by his handler, Deputy Rick Van Wyck, as a generalist patrol dog. As a generalist patrol dog, he was used to track suspects, conduct article searches, and for handler protection. With Axel's recent certification, he will be used as a tool to locate narcotics during traffic stops, search warrants, and other circumstances involving the possession and trafficking of narcotics. He will also continue to be used in his previous capacity as a generalist patrol dog.

The Lewis County Sheriff's Office is excited to have his new narcotics detection skills as a resource in the fight against illegal narcotics activity in our community.



Lewis County Sheriff's Office Boating Unit

Spring and summer saw a lot of activity for our Boating Unit. In addition to patrolling the waterways of Lewis County, the unit conducted 352 boating inspections, as well as attending and providing educational events for boaters. Some of the educational events included the "Adventures in Boating" course, several educational classes at local elementary schools, and participation in the annual "Operation Dry Water Program."



Deputy Patrols US Forest Service Lands

During July and August, a deputy with the Lewis County Sheriff's Office patrolled US Forest Service lands near Packwood and Randle after the US Forest Service law

enforcement office advised the Lewis County Sheriff's Office they would be without law enforcement coverage of US Forest Service lands in eastern Lewis County during these two months. Our county's national forest has many visitors during the summer months, and as a result it was determined we needed to provide a deputy to ensure a safe environment for Lewis County residents and visitors alike who visited these lands. Thankfully, September brought the return of US Forest Service law enforcement personnel to the area.

PATROL ACTIVITIES CONTINUED

Lewis County Regional SWAT Trains with WSP and Thurston County SWAT

During the summer months, Lewis County Regional SWAT, comprised of members of the Centralia Police Department, Chehalis Police Department, and the Lewis County Sheriff's Office, trained with other area SWAT teams.

In an effort to support specialized training and solidify partnerships, trainings were conducted with both the Thurston County Regional SWAT team, as well as the Washington State Patrol SWAT team. These invaluable training partnerships prepares each team for working with each other in the future, if and/or when the need were to arise.



Lewis County Sheriff's Office Association

Awards Two Scholarships:

In April, our employee association, the Lewis County Sheriff's Office Association (LCSOA), awarded two \$750 scholarships. The winner of the LCSOA Stephen Michael Gallagher Scholarship was **Hailey Compton** of Pe Ell High School, who is headed to Saint Martin's University in Lacey.

The winner of the LCSOA Cardinal Scholarship was **Phoenix Milhollen** of Adna High School, who is headed to Eastern Oregon University.

The LCSOA is a non-profit group comprised of Lewis County Sheriff's Office Employees. All funds are raised through employee dues, donations, and some fundraising.

Sheriffs' Mentoring Students "SMS" Program

The Sheriffs' Mentoring Students (SMS) Program continued to remain active in local area schools. In addition to regularly visiting schools and interacting with students, the program has provided educational and safety programs, as well as assisting the schools in evaluating lockdown protocols and preparation for the potential of active threats within the schools.

As a result of the SMS Program, in partnership with the Evaline School District, deputies also assisted in refurbishing a school sandbox used by the students.



PATROL ACTIVITIES CONTINUED

Banquet Recognizes Volunteers

On April 23, over 100 people gathered at the Bethel Church Fireside Room in Chehalis to recognize volunteers who work with and help support the LCSO throughout the year. During the banquet, Sheriff Snaza thanked all of the volunteers for their dedicated service and presented special awards to several individuals for outstanding service, dedication, and leadership.

Special Recognition Included:

Lewis County Chaplaincy Service

Louie L. Hopkins

Packwood Search & Rescue

Sue English

Lewis County Composite Squadron Civil Air Patrol

Steven Von Seggren

LCSO Explorer Post #9771

Hailee J. Olsen

Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES)

James H. Van Ornum

LCSO Support Volunteers

Nick Nicoara
Cheryl E. Haselwood
Ardith J. Hamilton
Kirsten A. Witchey

LCSO Reserve Deputies' Wives

Sandy Lupo
Brenda Padgett
Ellen Lee
Cara Radtke

The Lewis County Sheriff's Office Helps Host Local Reserve Academy

From April through September of this year, the Lewis County Sheriff's Office, in partnership with the Centralia Police Department, helped host a local Reserve Law Enforcement Academy. In attendance were a total of fourteen recruits from the Centralia Police Department, Lewis County Sheriff's Office, Lakewood Police Department, Toledo Police Department, and the Yelm Police Department. On September 3, the recruits graduated in a ceremony held at the Historic Courthouse in Chehalis.



As a result, the Lewis County Sheriff's Office is pleased to welcome Reserve Deputies: Brady Foley, Blake Teitzel, Destiny Chesnut, and Mark Anders to our agency. Scott Robb, another graduate of the Reserve Academy, has since been hired as a full time deputy and is attending the Basic Law Enforcement Academy at the Criminal Justice Training Center (CJTC).



Ford 150s Added to Lewis County Sheriff's Office Vehicle Fleet

The Lewis County Sheriff's Office added two Ford F150's to their vehicle fleet during 2016.

These trucks are being utilized by personnel assigned to the Boating, Swift Water Rescue, and the Search and Rescue programs. Our agency is evaluating the use of Ford trucks for these programs and for use on patrol in rural Lewis County.

PATROL ACTIVITIES CONTINUED

Sign up for Lewis County ALERT



The Lewis County Sheriff's Office recommends signing up for Lewis County ALERT. ALERT is a program that notifies community members of events such as possible natural disasters, law enforcement activity, and other significant events requiring emergency notification occurring within Lewis County.

These notifications can be area specific and can be tailored to your home, work, schools, and other locations you care about.

Once an ALERT notification is sent, it will be received by automated call, text, or e-mail depending on your preference. This helps us in notifying you of flood events, fires, natural disasters, law enforcement suspects and searches, as well as other public safety information.

To sign up simply go to the Lewis County web site: www.lewiscountywa.gov a link is at the bottom of the homepage.

Law Enforcement Firearms Training Hosted by Lewis County Sheriff's Office

The Lewis County Sheriff's Office Firearms Training Unit recently hosted firearms training for law enforcement professionals. In partnership with firearms manufacturer Glock, basic and advanced armorer's



courses were hosted at the Law and Justice Center in Chehalis. Additionally, a National Rifle Association (NRA) Law Enforcement Activities Division (LEAD) patrol rifle instructor course was hosted. Our hosting these trainings resulted in tuition-free attendance to members of our agency, as well as law enforcement training opportunities to others here in Washington State.



WASHINGTON
Traffic Safety
COMMISSION

Striving for the Goal of Target Zero:

The Lewis County Sheriff's Office continued to partner with the Washington State Traffic Safety Commission during 2016 in areas of education and enforcement. Eight times this year deputies have participated in countywide high visibility traffic safety emphasis patrols. These eight planned events led to deputies making 340 contacts, issuing 94 citations and/or infractions, and giving 179 warnings. Deputies, along with our other law enforcement partners, will continue to participate in additional patrols during the holiday season, so please travel safe and remember "Drive Sober, or Get Pulled Over."

EMPLOYEE ACTIVITIES

Halloween



Special Services Support Technician II, Lisa Arthur, won the County Pumpkin Carving Contest, and Services Bureau employees won the Great Pumpkin Award for "Group Costumes" theme.



The Special Services Bureau Office had draw bridges and moats to go with their castle theme.



EMPLOYEE ACTIVITIES CONTINUED...

PAST AND PRESENT

Retirements:

During 2016 the following Lewis County Sheriff's Office employees retired:

- Corrections Sergeant Steve Clear—38 years
- Detective Tom Callas—27 years
- Sergeant Steve Aust —26 years
- Corrections Deputy Gary Nuss—22 years
- Support Technician Sherrie Unger—20 years



We thank them for their dedicated service to our office and the community we serve!

Annual Retiree Luncheon



In September, the Lewis County Sheriff's Office hosted its annual retiree luncheon at the Law and Justice Center in Chehalis. This annual event is held for retirees of our agency to thank them for their years of dedicated service with our office. It is also a great time to relive memories, catch-up on each other's activities, and share with them what the office has been up to. Thank you to all our former employees for your service and dedication to our office and community.